GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:891
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
SETTING UP OF SMALL AIRPORTS
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to set up a network of at least 500 small airports in the country to facilitate growth of regional airlines and the future domestic aviation industry;

(b) if so, the broad features and details of the plan and its estimated cost; and

(c) the steps being taken in that direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) & (c) A new policy for Greenfield airports is under formulation. The policy is aimed to provide required impetus to, inter-alia, construction of several airports in smaller cities / towns.

It is also proposed to develop the unused airstrips, which are large in number, for commercial utilization. In this endeavour private sector would also be involved.